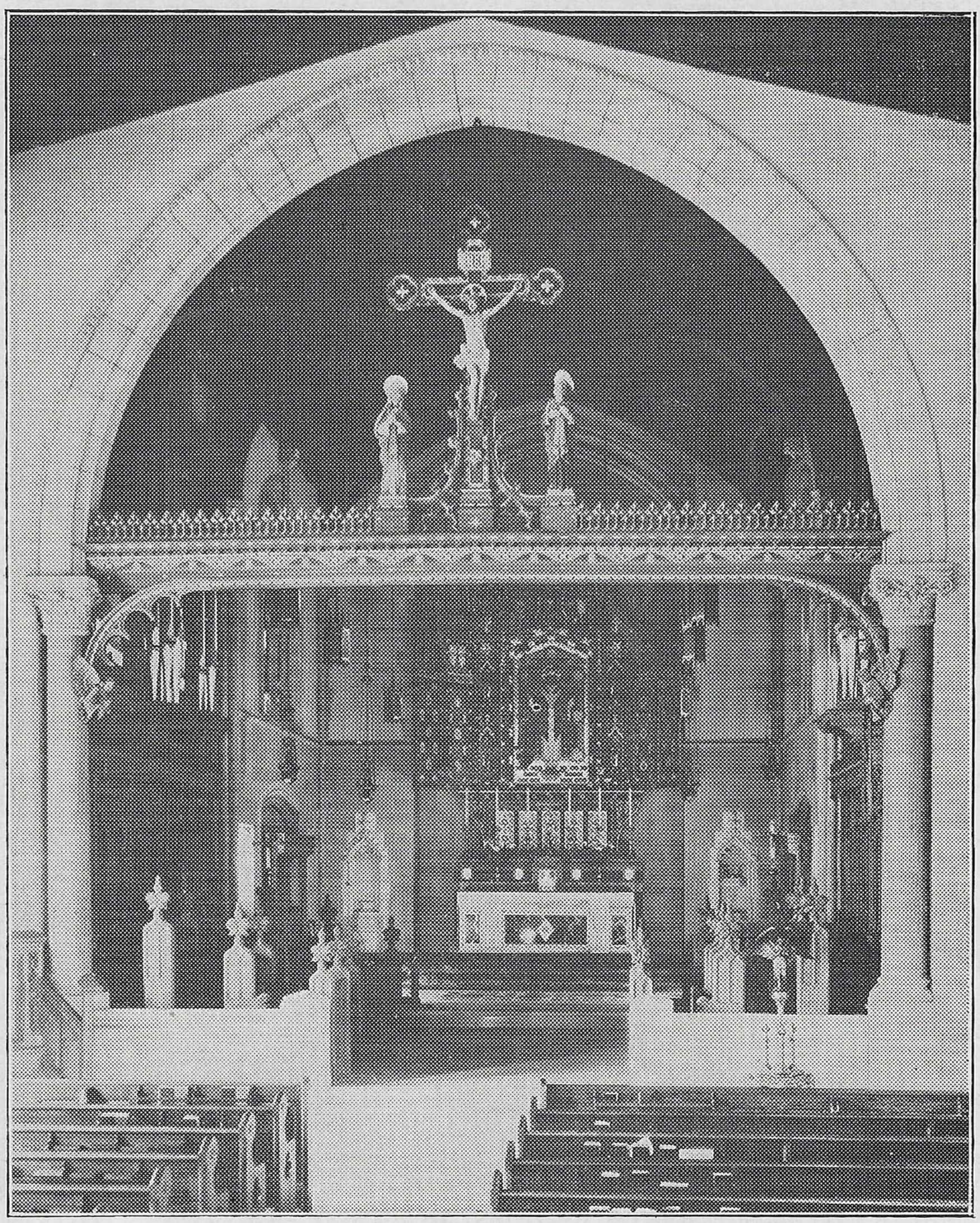
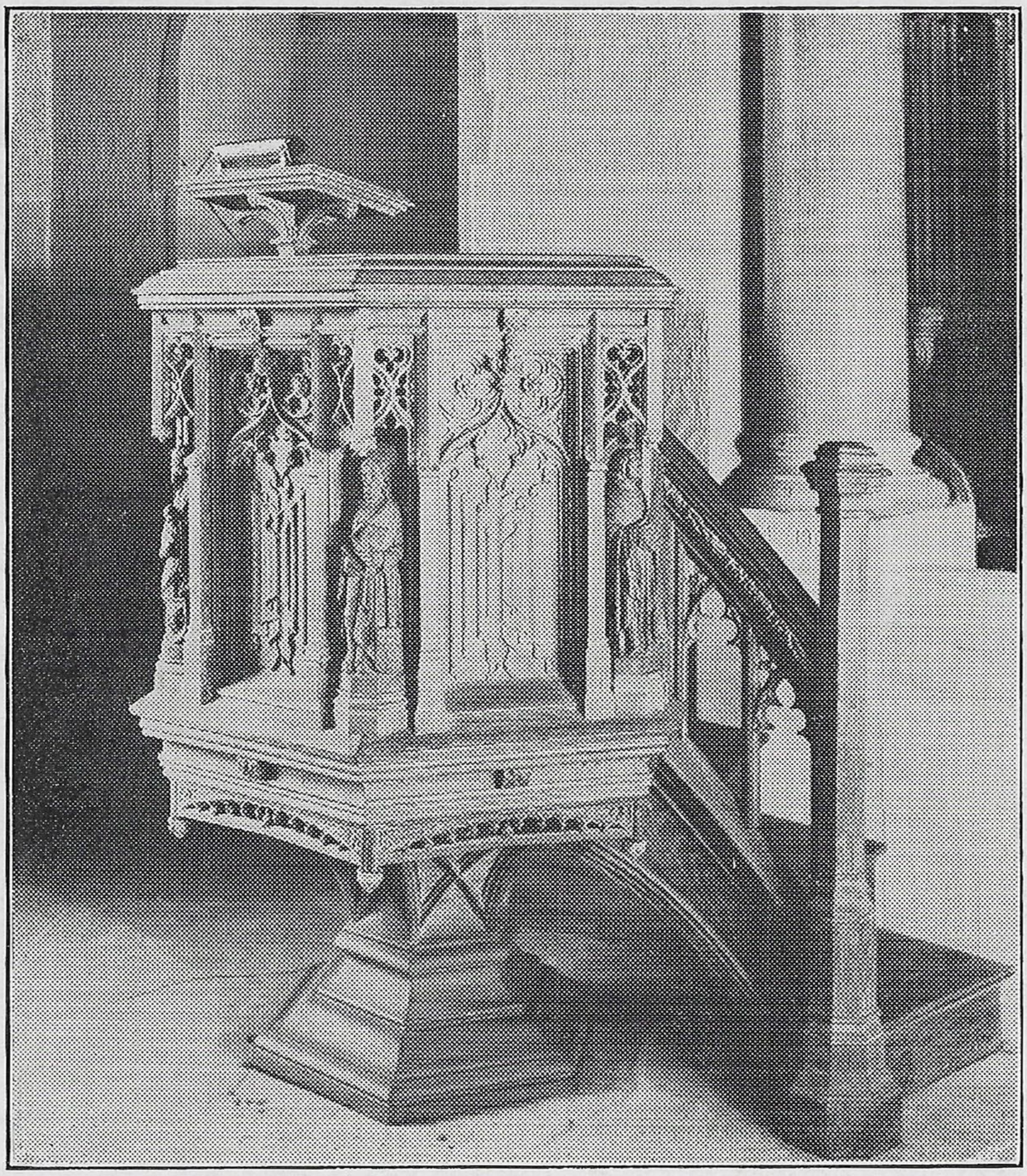
The Office for the Consecration of the New Chancel and the Blessing of the Completed Church and the New Church House of St. John's Parish ✠ ✠

Norristown, Pennsylvania, Sunday in the Octave of St. Michael and All Angels, September 30th, 1928



Consecrator, The Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Garland, D. D.
Celebrant, The Rev. James Martin Niblo, Rector



New Pulpit

Processional: Hymn 530 . . . . . Sullivan

Onward Christian soldiers,
Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus
Going on before:
Christ, the royal Master,
Leads against the foe;
Forward into battle,
See His banners go.

Onward Christian soldiers,
Marching as to war,
With the cross of Jesus
Going on before.

At the sign of triumph
Satan's hosts doth flee;
On then, Christian soldiers,
On to victory;
Hell's foundations quiver
At the shout of praise;
Brothers lift your voices,
Loud your anthems raise.
Onward, etc.

Like a mighty army,
Moves the Church of God;
Brothers, we are treading
Where the Saints have trod;
We are not divided,
All one Body we,
One in hope and doctrine,
One in charity.

Onward, etc.

Crowns and thrones may perish,
Kingdoms rise and wane,
But the Church of Jesus
Constant will remain;
Gates of hell can never
'Gainst that Church prevail;
We have Christ's own promise,
And that cannot fail.

Onward, etc.

Onward, then, ye people;
Join our happy throng;
Blend with ours your voices
In the triumph song;
Glory, laud, and honor,
Unto Christ the King;
This through countless ages
Men and angels sing.
Onward, etc.

¶ *The Bishop, Clergy, Acolytes and Vestry having entered the Church House, then shall the Bishop proceed to the blessing of the building.*

V. The Lord be with you.
R. And with thy spirit.
Let us pray.

Blessed be Thy Name, O Lord, that it hath pleased Thee to put into the hearts of Thy servants to build and dedicate this Church House to Thy glory and for the use of Thy people. Accept, we pray Thee, the offering of Thy servants and remember for good all who have contributed to this work. Let Thy blessing rest upon this House, that it may serve the purposes for which it is intended. Grant that here brotherly love and true fellowship may ever abound, and Thy people encourage one another in all good works, to the honor of Thy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, who art the chief Corner Stone of Thy Church, bless this Building which is now completed in Thy Name, and grant that it may tend to promote Thy Glory, and the welfare of Thy people in this place. Fill those who shall frequent it with a spirit of love towards Thee and towards all men. Within these walls may harsh thoughts be ever subdued, and unkind works unspoken, and may those who here shall learn the way of Thy statutes, walk before Thee with a perfect heart, and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Our Heavenly Father, grant that Thy special blessing may rest upon the Church School held in this House. Grant to our teachers faithfulness, diligence and devotion, and to our scholars pure hearts and open minds, that they may be trained in Thy knowledge and love, to serve Thee faithfully in their generation and to find acceptance with Thee at the last; through Jesus Christ Thy Son our Lord. *Amen.*

In the faith of Jesus Christ, we dedicate this Church House to the Glory of God and to be a center for the promotion of the welfare of the people of this community. In the Name of the Father and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. *Amen.*

¶ *The Bishop having been met at the Church Door, the Procession will move to the Chancel* g *Psalm XXIV.*

The earth is the Lord's, and all that therein is: the compass of the world, and they that dwell therein.

2 For he hath founded it upon the seas: and prepared it upon the floods.

3 Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord: or who shall rise up in his holy place?

4 Even he that hath clean hands, and a pure heart: and that hath not lift up his mind unto vanity, nor sworn to deceive his neighbour.

5 He shall receive the blessing from the Lord: and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

6 This is the generation of them that seek him: even of them that seek thy face, O Jacob.

7 Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors: and the King of glory shall come in.

8 Who is this King of glory: It is the Lord strong and mighty, even the Lord mighty in battle.

9 Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors: and the King of glory shall come in.

10 Who is this King of glory: Even the Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. *Amen.*

¶ *The Bishop, advancing to the Altar steps and turning to the Congregation, shall say,*

Dearly beloved in the Lord; forasmuch as devout and holy men, as well under the Law as under the Gospel, moved either by the express command of God, or by the secret inspiration of the blessed Spirit, and acting agreeably to their own reason and sense of the natural decency of things, have erected houses for the public worship of God, and separated them from all unhallowed, worldly, and common uses, in order to fill men's minds with greater reverence for his glorious Majesty, and affect their hearts with more devotion and humility in his service; which pious works have been approved of and graciously accepted by our heavenly Father: Let us not doubt but that he will also favourably approve our godly purpose of setting apart this place in solemn manner, for the performance of the several offices of religious worship, and let us faithfully and devoutly beg his blessing on this our undertaking.

¶ *Then the Bishop, kneeling before the Altar, shall say the following Prayer.*

O Eternal God, mighty in power, and of majesty incomprehensible, whom the heaven of heavens cannot contain, much less the walls of temples made with hands; and who yet hast been graciously pleased to promise thy especial presence, wherever two or three of thy faithful servants shall assemble in thy Name, to offer up their praises and supplications unto thee; Vouchsafe, O Lord, to be present with us, who are here gathered together with all humility and readiness of heart, to consecrate this place to the honour of thy great Name; separating it henceforth from all unhallowed, ordinary, and common uses; and dedicating it to thy service, for reading thy holy Word, for celebrating thy holy Sacraments, for offering to thy glorious Majesty the sacrifices of prayer and thanksgiving, for blessing thy people in thy Name, and for all other holy offices: accept, O Lord, this service at our hands, and bless it with such success as may tend most to thy glory, and the furtherance of our happiness both temporal and spiritual; through Jesus Christ our blessed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

¶ *After this the Bishop shall stand up, and turning his face towards the Congregation, shall say,*

Regard, O Lord, the supplications of thy servants, and grant that whosoever shall be dedicated to thee in this house by Baptism, may be sanctified by the Holy Ghost, delivered from thy wrath and eternal death, and received as a living member of Christ's Church, and may ever remain in the number of thy faithful children. *Amen.*

Grant, O Lord, that they who at this place shall in their own persons renew the promises and vows of their Baptism, and be confirmed by the Bishop, may receive such a measure of thy Holy Spirit, that they may be enabled faithfully to fulfill the same, and grow in grace unto their lives' end. *Amen.*

Grant, O Lord, that whosoever shall receive in this place the blessed Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ, may come to that holy ordinance with faith, charity, and true repentance; and being filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, may, to their great and endless comfort, obtain remission of their sins, and all other benefits of his passion. *Amen.*

Grant, O Lord, that by thy holy Word which shall be read and preached in this place, and by thy Holy Spirit grafting it inwardly in the heart, the hearers thereof may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and may have power and strength to fulfill the same. *Amen.*

Grant, O Lord, that whosoever shall be joined together in this place in the holy estate of Matrimony, may faithfully perform and keep the vow and covenant between them made, and may remain in perfect love together unto their lives' end. *Amen.*

Grant, we beseech thee, blessed Lord, that whosoever shall draw near to thee in this place, to give thee thanks for the benefits which they have received at thy hands, to set forth thy most worthy praise, to confess their sins unto thee, and to ask such things as are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as for the soul, may do it with such steadiness of faith, and with such seriousness, affection, and devotion of mind, that thou mayest accept their bounden duty and service, and vouchsafe to give whatever in thy infinite wisdom thou shalt see to be most expedient for them. All which we beg for Jesus Christ's sake, our most blessed Lord and Saviour. *Amen.*

¶ *Then shall be read the Sentence of Consecration.*

Blessed be thy Name, O Lord, that it hath pleased thee to put it into the hearts of thy servants to appropriate and devote this house to thy honour and worship; and grant that all who shall enjoy the benefit of this pious work, may show forth their thankfulness, by making a right use of it, to the glory of thy blessed Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Introit: Anthem—"O How Amiable Are Thy Dwellings,"
Joseph Barnby

Music of the Mass . . . . . C Major by Herbert Ralph Ward

THE COLLECT

O most glorious Lord, we acknowledge that we are not worthy to offer unto thee any thing belonging unto us; yet we beseech thee, in thy great goodness, graciously to accept the Dedication of this place to thy service, and to prosper this our undertaking; receive the prayers and intercessions of all those thy servants who shall call upon thee in this house; and give them grace to prepare their hearts to serve thee with reverence and godly fear; affect them with an awful apprehension of thy Divine Majesty, and a deep sense of their own unworthiness; that so, approaching thy sanctuary with lowliness and devotion, and coming before thee with clean thoughts and pure hearts, with bodies undefiled and minds sanctified, they may always perform a service acceptable to thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE EPISTLE (2 Cor. vi. 14.)

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? and what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? and what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

THE GOSPEL (St. John ii. 13)

And the Jews' passover was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting: and when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers' money, and overthrew the tables; and said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise. And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up.

Sermon by the Rt. Rev. Thomas J. Garland, D.D., Bishop of Pennsylvania

Offertory: Hymn 537 . . . . . Messiter

1 Rejoice, ye pure in heart!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your glorious banner wave on high,
The cross of Christ your King!

2 Bright youth, and snow-crowned age,
Strong men and maidens meek:
Raise high your free, exulting song!
God's wondrous praises speak!

3 With all the angel choirs,
With all the saints of earth,
Pour out the strains of joy and bliss,
True rapture, noblest mirth!

4 Your clear hosannas raise,
And alleluias loud!
Whilst answering echoes upward float
Like wreaths of incense cloud.

5 Yes, on through life's long path!
Still chanting as ye go;
From youth to age, by night and day,
In gladness and in woe.

6 Still lift your standard high!
Still march in firm array!
As warriors through the darkness toil,
Till dawns the golden day!

7 At last the march shall end;
The wearied ones shall rest;
The pilgrims find their Father's house,
Jerusalem the blest.

8 Then on, ye pure in heart!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your glorious banner wave on high,
The cross of Christ your King!

¶ *Immediately before he gives the final blessing, the Bishop shall say this Prayer.*

Blessed be thy Name, O Lord God, for that it hath pleased thee to have thy habitation among the sons of men, and to dwell in the midst of the assembly of the saints upon the earth; Grant, we beseech thee, that in this place now set apart to thy service, thy holy Name may be worshipped in truth and purity through all generations; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

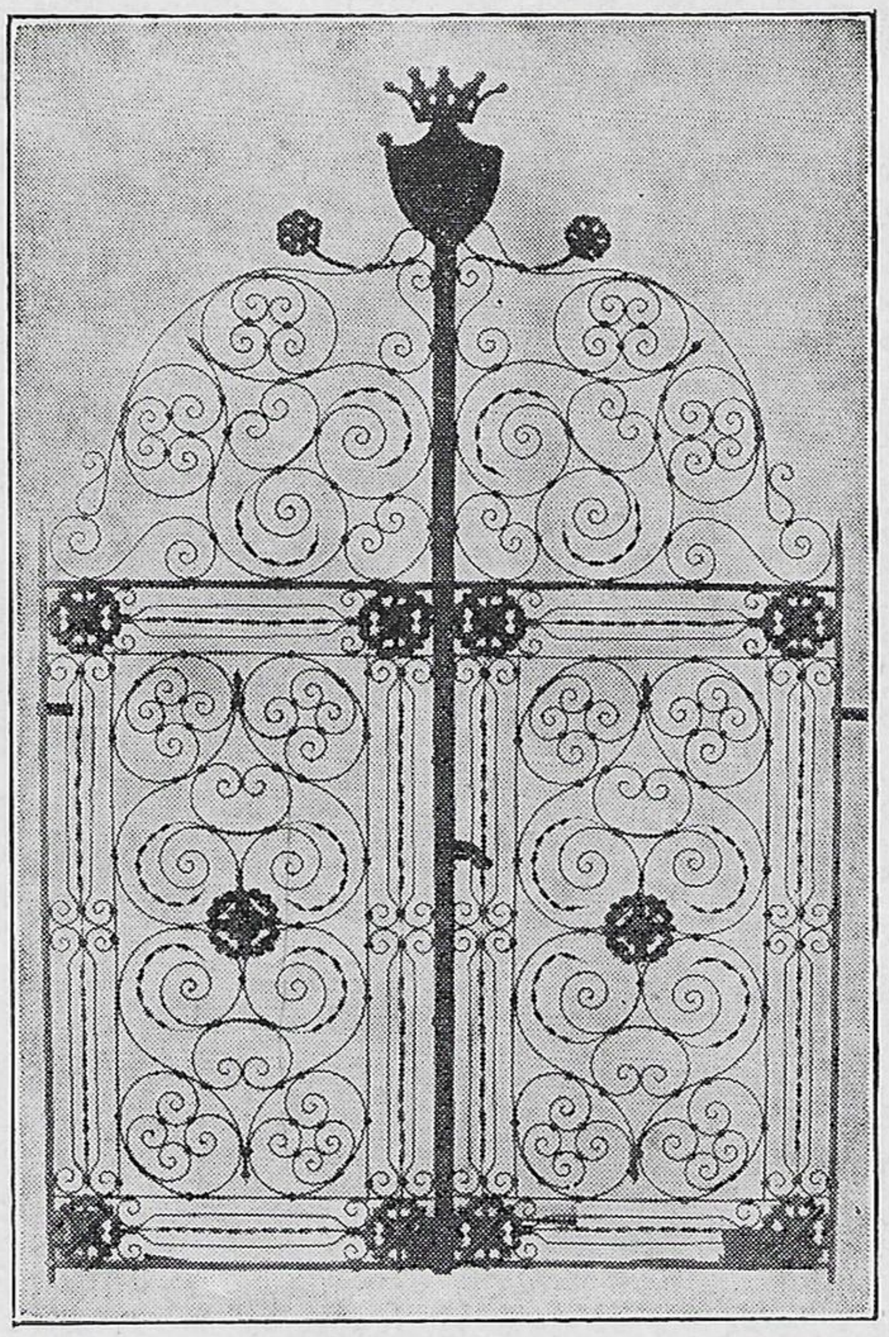
Closing Hymn, 457 ..... Smart

1 Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and corner-stone,
Chosen of the Lord, and precious,
Binding all the Church in one;
Holy Zion's help forever,
And her confidence alone.

2 All that dedicated city,
Dearly loved of God on high,
In exultant jubilation
Pours perpetual melody;
God the One in Three adoring
In glad hymns eternally.

3 To this temple, where we call Thee,
Come, O Lord of Hosts, today;
With Thy wonted loving-kindness,
Hear Thy servants as they pray;
And Thy fullest benediction
Shed within its walls alway.

4 Here vouchsafe to all Thy servants
What they ask of Thee to gain,
What they gain from Thee, for ever
With the blessèd to retain,
And hereafter in Thy glory
Evermore with Thee to reign.
Amen.



Gate at Entrance to Lady Chapel

Altar of the Lady Chapel

Parish Register

Baptised Sept. 23—David George Grant.

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Parish Notices

Choral Evensong and Confirmation Instruction to-night at 7.30 P. M. Subject—The Way of Life, God's Means of Grace.

Young People's Fellowship this afternoon at 5 P. M.

Monday Evening—Girls' Friendly Society at 7.45 P. M.

Tuesday—Special Diocesan Convention in Holy Trinity Church, Phila., for the election of a Bishop Co-Adjutor. Pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

St. Mark's Guild at 8 P. M.

Wednesday—Formal Opening and Inspection of Church House and Church, 7.30 to 10 P. M. All members and friends of Parish invited.

Children of Confirmation Class meet at 4.15 P. M.

Thursday—Celebration of Holy Eucharist with Intercessions at 9 A. M. Breakfast will be served immediately afterwards. This plan will continue throughout the winter.

Friday—Monthly meeting of St. Agnes Guild at 8 P. M.

Services this week daily—Holy Eucharist at 7.30 A. M., excepting Thursday, when the hour is 9 A. M.

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The flowers on the Altars to-day are in memory of Harriett Cornelia Prevost.

May She Rest In Peace.

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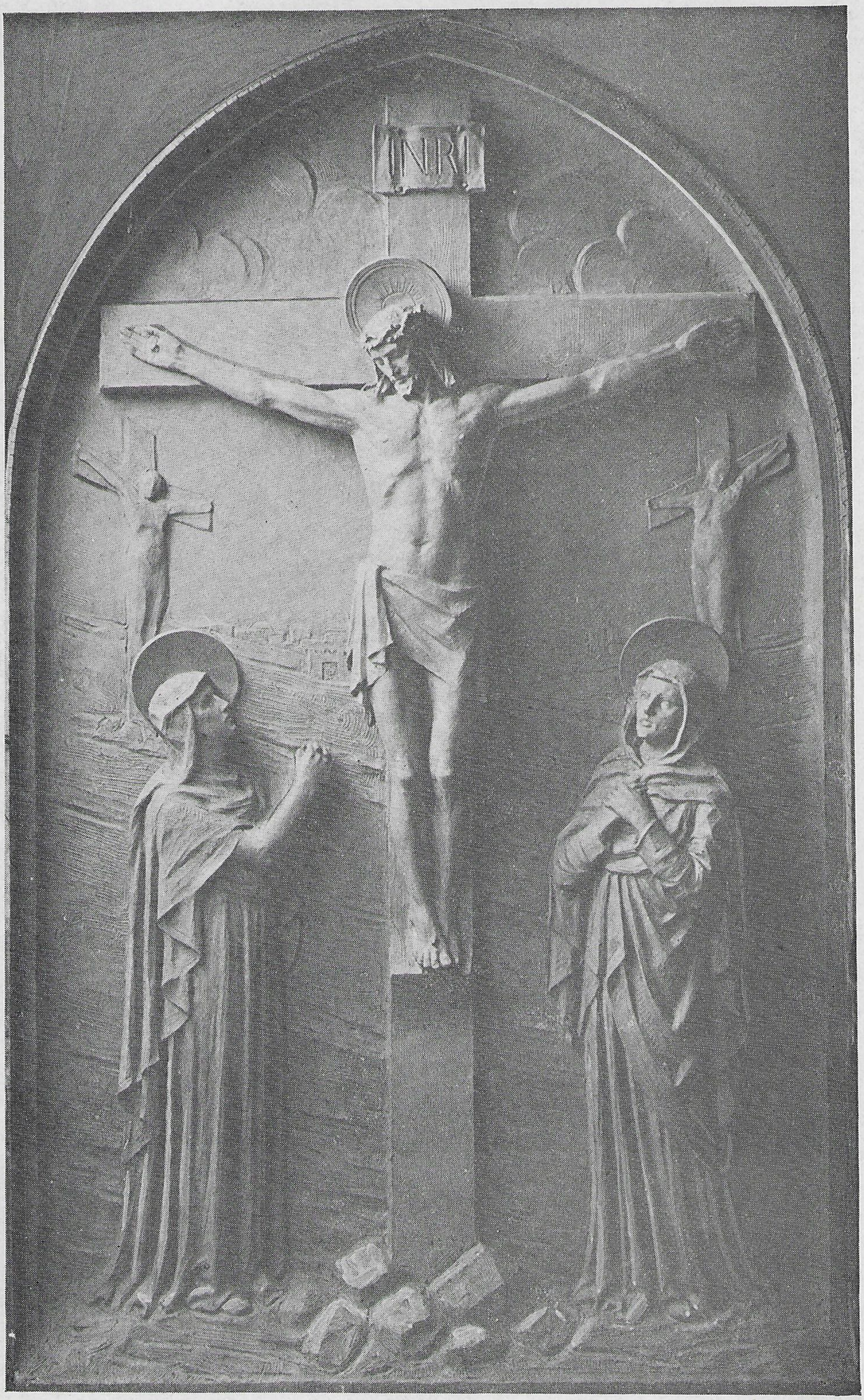
Credence and Piscina



Stone Calvary over Altar in Church Yard